



US ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Region 1 New England - OEME
11 Technology Drive, North Chelmsford, MA 01863

Inspection Report

Date: January 3, 2014
Subject: Burtland Farm - Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO)
Inspection
Prepared by: Lisa Thuot – USEPA Compliance Inspector

I. Facility Information:

Name: Burtland Farm
Location: 121 Burtland Drive
St. Albans, VT 05478

Owner/Operator: Jason Burt, Owner/Operator
Mailing Address: (same as above)

II. Inspection Information:

Date of Inspection: August 20, 2013

EPA Inspector(s): Lisa Thuot – Compliance Inspector (EPA Region 1/OEME)
Diane Boisclair – Compliance Inspector (EPA Region 1/OES)
Facility Contact(s)
During Inspection: Jason Burt, Owner

State Contact(s): Trevor Lewis, Vermont Agency of Agriculture
Marli Rupe, Vermont Dept. of Environmental Conservation

Weather Conditions: Sunny, ~ 90°F

III. Purpose of Inspection:

The purpose of the inspection was to assess applicability of and compliance with the CAFO requirements under the Clean Water Act at 40 C.F.R. Part 122.23.

Entry Procedures

Inspectors contacted Burtland Farm by phone 24-hours in advance of the inspection and spoke with Christina Burt, who provided notification to Jason Burt on our behalf. Upon arrival, EPA inspectors presented their inspector credentials to Mr. Burt, who provided a tour of his farm.

IV. Inspection Information/Findings

Burtland Farm (“the farm”) is a dairy operation which Jason Burt has owned since 1997. The land on which the farm operates is owned by Basil Burt, who was not present during the inspection. The farm includes a combination of owned and rented land with approximately 800 acres for crops (corn, hay, grasses). There are 240 milking cows, 200 youngstock (heifers and calves), and about 60 dry cows. There are 3 employees working at the farm. The farm has a nutrient management plan (NMP) which was prepared and maintained by Bourdeau Brothers of Middlebury, VT. Milk from the farm is picked up for the St. Albans Co-Op.

In 1999, an addition was completed at the main barn. The new barn area has a slotted floor and tiered dams to collect manure, which is piped into the manure pit. Manure from the older section of the barn is scraped into the pit once a week. An outside company/contractor spreads manure on the farm fields. Mr. Burt said they adhere to a 75-foot spreading buffer, particularly on rented land near Lake Champlain. Water tubs are used in the barn year-round for animal drinking water. There are 2 wells on-site for the farm and 1 well for the Burt residence.

The exercise lot/pasture area located northeast of the barn is periodically used for dry cows and some heifers. There is a dirt walkway from the barn into the pasture/exercise lot, which borders a vegetated drainage swale/ditch (picture #1). Runoff from the exercise lot would enter the drainage swale via overland flow. The drainage swale flows east toward the Mill River, which is located approximately 0.4 miles from the farm.

Feed is stored in concrete silage bunkers on the west side of the farm. In addition, 4 grain silos are used. The silage bunkers were expanded in 1998. Runoff from the silage area flows into a drainage ditch located on the southeast side of the bunkers (picture #2). The drainage ditch flows into an adjacent grassy field/pasture (picture #3). No leachate or runoff from the silage area was observed flowing into the ditch or the field during the inspection.

Sawdust is used as bedding for all cows at the farm. Sawdust is stored in a covered, open bay shed immediately south of the silage bunkers. No issues were observed in this area.

The milking parlor is attached to the main barn. Mr. Burt said the milk tanks are cleaned after each milk pick-up. Several 55-gallon drums of CIP acid cleaner and CIP-100 alkaline cleaner were being stored on the floor directly next to a floor drain. Mr. Burt said the floor drain is connected to the manure pit. Inspectors recommended placing the drums on a plastic spill pallet, to avoid spills of concentrated cleaner product from entering the manure pit.

At the calf barn, manure is shoveled out and placed in the farm's compost pile. The compost pile is located on the southeast side of the farm next to a corn field.

V. Exit Briefing

EPA inspectors conducted an exit briefing with Jason Burt, with Trevor Lewis and Marli Rupe also present. The following items were discussed:

- Ensure that runoff from the farm (i.e. silage area, exercise lot) does not channelize and flow into the drainage swale/ditch, which flows toward the Mill River;
- Place the 55-gallon drums of acid and alkaline cleaners on a spill pallet in the milking parlor, to prevent spills of concentrated product into the manure pit.

Enclosures/Attachments:

Inspection Pictures

Aerial picture map